

MARILYN ANN (CLARK) GENOVESE(1922-2012)



Marilyn Ann (Clark) Genovese passed away peacefully; June 16, 2012 at 6:15 pm with the family in attendance. Marilyn was born August 20, 1922 in Conneaut Lake, Pennsylvania, born to Joseph and Anna Clark joining an older brother Joseph D. Clark. The family moved from Pennsylvania to Chicago, Illinois. A sister Nancy was born in 1927 sister Patricia was born in 1931. Marilyn started school in Chicago in 1929. Marilyn's father passed away in 1932, he was 40 years old. Her mother moved the family to Elgin Illinois and moved in with Marilyn's grandfather Clark's, family. The young family was split up, with Marilyn and her sister Nancy living with grand father Clark. Anna

Clark the mother taking son Joseph and baby Patricia to live with her parents.

Marilyn was raised by her grand parents until her grandfather died. Uncle Alexander Clark raised Marilyn and Nancy. Marilyn attended grade, junior high and high school in Elgin, Illinois. Marilyn was an excellent straight "A" student. In her senior year of high school in 1940 she came down with polio in her left leg. Her doctor told her she may not walk again, being a very determined young lady she stated "The heck I won't". She missed a half of year of school but made it up and graduated with her class of 1940. She was determined to walk up and receive her diploma. When her name was called she dropped her crutches and walked across the stage. When she was a senior in high school her mother passed away. Marilyn graduated from high school placing third in a class of 350.

After graduating Marilyn worked for local attorneys and, continued this vocation traveling by train daily into Chicago working for a large law firm. In 1953 Marilyn went to work for Foster Bus Company in Alhambra, California, as a bookkeeper. While there she met and married, Earl Elder a bus mechanic with the company. After a year of marriage Earl bought a service station in Monrovia, California.

On June 6, 1957 Marilyn gave birth to son Randy A. Elder. Marilyn was so happy with her young son. In 1959 Marilyn became pregnant and the birth was expected in June.

Earl her husband passed away unexpectedly on May 3, 1960 a month before Marilyn was due to deliver her second baby. Arthur D. Elder was born June 12, 1960.

Marilyn had two small children to raise and a service station business to run. It wasn't long before Marilyn put the business up for sale and fortunately sold it.

Marilyn's mother-in-law mother who lived in Arlington, Washington, invited Marilyn and boys to come and live with her. She sold her house and furnishings and loaded their possessions into the car and started the long trek up to Washington.

Marilyn eventually got a job working for a Bookkeeping and Income Tax firm, until she went to

work for the Marysville Livestock Auction Barn.

Marilyn met a cattle buyer Ray Jensen and they were married in 1964. Marilyn moved to Burlington and they built a new house on the Josh-Wilson road. Ray adopted the two boys, who became brothers of Larry, Ray's son. After Arthur was old enough to enter school Marilyn went to work for Wilbur Peters a CPA doing bookkeeping and doing tax returns. As Marilyn became settled into Skagit County she encouraged the boys to become active in 4H and they showed cattle at the County Fair.

Marilyn, became very active in the Republican Party working for candidates, and worked up to the post of "State Committee woman from Skagit County". Marilyn joined several clubs and became a member of the Elks and bridge groups.

In 1979 Marilyn and Ray Jensen were divorced. Late in 1979 Marilyn met Chuck Genovese at a Husky football game through mutual friends. It took Chuck some time before asking her for a date. Marilyn and Chuck were married in September 19, 1980. Chuck loved sports as did Marilyn. They belonged to Skagit Valley Golf & Country Club. Marilyn did something Chuck was never able to do, made a hole in one and she would remind him of that occasionally. They had season tickets for the Seahawks, attended many Sonic and Mariner games. As members of the Elks and loved to dance they were the last ones to leave the floor. They had a time share and were able to go to 24 different destinations and went to most of them. They loved Palm Springs and went there eleven straight years. Attended most of the musical presentations locally and Seattle.

Marilyn loved her grand children and was very supportive of their activities including "State History Day" completion. Attending all the local competition, traveling to Ellensburg, WA every year for the state finals and traveled to Washington D.C., six times for the finals.

Marilyn joined Chuck for his World War II ships reunions, at various locations around the United States. Marilyn was a very personable lady and a good mixer. Chuck had two daughters Diane Thomas in Delaware and Charlene Smith in Oregon. Marilyn and Chuck made many trips to visit them. Marilyn loved clothes and always looked elegant. If you gave Marilyn a job to do you could be sure that it would be done well and on time.

Marilyn, had hip replacement, major back surgery and never complained. As her memory started to diminish Chuck was her caregiver for nearly six years. In 2009 he no longer could take care of her and had to put her into assisted living at Ashley Gardens of Mount Vernon.

The family thanks Ashley Gardens, Director, nurses and aides for their loving and medical care given to Marilyn. The family also appreciated the loving care provided to Marilyn by Hospice of Mount Vernon.

Marilyn was a loving wife, mother, grandmother and good friend. She loved her two sons and was very proud of them. She treated all her grandchildren and great-grandchildren with the same love and fairness. Marilyn was so unselfish thinking of everyone else first.

Marilyn is survived by and will be greatly missed by her husband Chuck at their family home in Burlington. Her son Randy and daughter-in-law Cathy Jensen. Her grandchildren of Randy and Cathy; Angela Kelly, (Gordon), Christopher Jensen, (Tara) and Jason Jensen. Her great-grandchildren of Randy and Cathy; Jesse, (Angela and Gordon), also Finn and Nolan, (Christopher and Tara). And her son Arthur and daughter-in-law Vickie Jensen. Her granddaughters of Arthur and Vickie; Marlo Frank, (Gary), and Abra Anderson, (Jason). Her great-grandchildren of Arthur and Vickie; Haylee Frank, Zach Frank and Gable Wilkins, (Marlo and Gary), also Taylor, Hannah and Lauren (Abra and Jason). Also her step-son Larry Jensen, Chuck's daughters Diane Thomas of Newark Delaware and Charlene (Karl) Smith of Salem Oregon.

Marilyn was preceded in death by her sisters, Nancy (Clark) Anderson, Manito, IL. Patricia (Clark) Hurley, Montgomery, IL. Brother Joseph D Clark, Brooklyn Center, MN. Leaving seven nieces and four nephews all living in the Midwest.

A Memorial Service will be held Friday, June 22, 2012, 1:00 p.m. at Hawthorne Funeral Home 1825 E. College Way, Mount Vernon with a reception to follow in the Hawthorne Reception Room.

Arrangements are under the care of Hawthorne Funeral Home, Mount Vernon.

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